

Guiding principles

The academic success and well-being of our students come first

Educators and staff are our most important resource

We have high expectations

We are all in this together

We aim to enhance our district by balancing stability with needed change

We desire excellent community schools and options for all

We believe parent engagement is essential

We must save where we can to fund what we need

We value strong leadership

This is our once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

Guiding principles (elaborated)

The academic success and well-being of our students come first

Educators and staff are our most important resource

- We desire a system where great teachers, principals, and staff work in a supportive environment where they are empowered to do their best
- All students deserve access to the best teacher possible

We have high expectations

- Our aspiration is that all students graduate from high school college and career ready
- Wherever possible, decisions will be guided by proven and measurable impact on student achievement

We are all in this together

- We believe that the quality of education anywhere in Shelby County impacts our entire region economically

We aim to enhance our district by balancing stability with needed change

- The consolidated district should aim to keep, and build on, what is already working in MCS and SCS
- We will also leverage best practices from outside the district where the value potential is great

We desire excellent community schools and options for all

- All students should have an excellent school near their home to attend
- Students should have opportunities and options that meet their unique needs, either within their neighborhood school or elsewhere

We believe parent engagement is essential

- Parents are critical decision-makers in their children's education and their engagement is critical both in the Transition process and in the future district

We must save where we can to fund what we need

- Consolidation will present opportunities for savings; we must take advantage of these in order to invest in areas that support student success

We value strong leadership

- We believe effective leadership is a key ingredient for the success of the Transition
- We aspire to create a Transition Plan that inspires, excites, and attracts leaders at all levels

This is our once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

- Success is not merely merging the two districts' operations. We have an opportunity to envision and create a world-class school system
- Communicate the hope so we can conquer the fears